

when David Ramadanoff, a former associate conductor of the San Francisco Symphony and winner of the 1980 Leopold Stokowski Conducting Award, accepted the position of music director and conductor. Under his dynamic leadership, the Vallejo Symphony has developed into an urban orchestra of regional importance, attracting some of the finest musicians in the San Francisco Bay Area. In 1983 the VSO became completely professional. In 1993 the orchestra visited Vallejo's sister city of Akashi, Japan. In 1997 the VSO hosted the West Coast premiere of Hannibal's concert opera "African Portraits." Hannibal spent the week in Vallejo public schools with students.

The Vallejo Symphony now performs a four-concert subscription season and an annual Summer Pops concert each Fourth of July. As part of its commitment to the musical experience of Solano County's children, the orchestra performs youth concerts for the elementary school children of Vallejo, and presents its popular series of intimate, entertaining and educational mini-concerts in elementary schools throughout the county.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate that we recognize the Vallejo Symphony Orchestra for its many contributions to the Vallejo community and wish its members many more years of outstanding performances.

REMARKS ON THE DEATH OF SHAMIL BASAYEV

HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2006

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, on July 10, 2006, one of the world's greatest terrorists, Shamil Basayev was killed during a special operation by Russian Security Services. Basayev represented the radical aspect of the Chechen rebel movement. The movement began as a secular fight for independence and has become overrun by Islamic extremists. Russia claims that Basayev's efforts have now been supported by international terror networks like al-Qaeda.

For more than 10 years, Basayev, designated as a terrorist by both the United States and the United Nations, was the mastermind behind the most horrific attacks on the Russian people. His reign of terror includes the seizure of a hospital in Budyonnovsk in southern Russia in 1995 that killed approximately 100. He attacked a theater in Moscow in 2002 where dozens of hostages died. And most tragically and horrific in its cowardice, he abducted a school in Beslan in 2004, where 331 people died, more than half of them schoolchildren.

Basayev was set to strike again, but the Russian government stopped him in his tracks. Russian security officials engaged in a special operation that used information gained from tracking weapons and explosive shipments from abroad. They linked this information to plans for a terrorist attack in southern Russia intended to coincide with a meeting of the Group of 8 leaders.

Before his death, in his last known statement in public, Basayev was said to express "great thankfulness" for the insurgents in Iraq who killed 5 Russian diplomats.

Terrorism is an affront to civilized people the world over. We in New York and the United

States know the bloody price of terrorism. This represents a small victory in the global war on terrorism. Civilized society cannot rest until terrorism is stamped out once and for all.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SANCTUARY OF ROANOKE, ALABAMA

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2006

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask the attention of the House today to pay recognition to the First United Methodist Church of Roanoke, Alabama, which is celebrating the 100th anniversary of their sanctuary on October 1, 2006.

In 1836, the Randolph Mission was created and serves today as the earliest recording of a place for Methodists to worship in Roanoke. In 1870, the church joined the newly organized North Alabama Conference. The First United Methodist Church of Roanoke continues to be a part of the conference today.

From 1906 to 1908, George Stoves served as pastor of the First United Methodist Church of Roanoke during a rapid period of growth in the town and during construction of their present church. Stoves is recognized for designing the beautiful building.

The celebration will include opening the corner stone, memorializing a newly renovated kitchen, and paying off the mortgage of their family life center.

I salute the members of the First United Methodist Church of Roanoke, Alabama, for reaching this important milestone in the history of Roanoke, and congratulate the church family on their sanctuary's 100th anniversary.

IN HONOR OF EMILY STUART

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Emily Stuart. Throughout her lifetime, Mrs. Stuart brightened the lives of family and friends in the community of Parma, Ohio.

As a kind and active citizen, Mrs. Stuart played an integral role in local politics. She was a member of the Parma Democratic Club and the Woman's Democratic Club. Mrs. Stuart revolutionized the process of communication between constituents by devising a system of post cards to collect contact information. In addition, she spent countless hours making phone calls and posting yard signs for local politicians. During her involvement in local politics, she herself rose to the ranks of precinct committeewoman; a position she maintained for more than 20 years.

But Mrs. Stuart is not just an integral part of Parma politics. From her home on Harold Avenue, she has enjoyed 43 years of marriage to her loving husband, Joe Stuart. Together they became involved in committees and clubs across northeast Ohio. Her brothers, Edward

and Stephen Mazur and sister Janice Warner along with many nieces and nephews are among the many family members touched by Mrs. Stuart's delightful stories and laughter.

While the world changed dramatically over the course of Mrs. Stuart's lifetime, she believed in maintaining the traditions of her Polish ancestry. Mrs. Stuart contributed to the culture of Parma by joining the Polish Legion of American Veterans. Close friends say she welcomed any and every opportunity to speak her native language.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in celebrating the life of Emily Stuart; a beloved family member and friend. Over the years, her dedication to service brought joy to the lives of so many, including mine.

INTRODUCTION OF "RECONSTRUCTION AND STABILIZATION CIVILIAN MANAGEMENT ACT"

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2006

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, today, Mr. SAXTON and I are pleased to introduce the House companion bill to S. 3322, the Lugar-Biden bill, "Reconstruction and Stabilization Civilian Management Act," that unanimously passed the Senate in May 2006.

According to the Defense Science Board, since the end of the cold war, the U.S. has begun stabilization and reconstruction operation once every 18–24 months. This frequency of engagement reflects the reality that U.S. national security is more threatened by failing and ungoverned states than traditional threats. We only have to look to Afghanistan and southern Lebanon to see the far-reaching consequences of ungoverned territory.

The complexities of failed states cannot be dealt with by military solution alone. Combating failed states requires a complex combination of political, diplomatic, development assistance and military actions, as well as the ability to respond quickly in the immediate aftermath of crisis. The military plays an extremely important role in stabilizing a country, but civilians play an equally important role and have comparative advantage in helping to develop civil society—judicial systems, law enforcement, health care, economic development, trade promotion and other essential sectors to stabilize a country.

The Reconstruction and Stabilization Civilian Management Act would lay the legislative framework for authorizing this integral civilian capacity. Specifically, the Reconstruction and Stabilization Civilian Management Act would:

Authorize the establishment of the State Department Office of the Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization, S/CRS, and expenditures for a Crisis Response Fund for a Conflict Response Corps, and for educational, training, planning and operational capacity for S/CRS.

Authorize the establishment of a 250 person Civilian Response Corps with both Active-Duty and Reserve components. The corps, made up of both State Department and USAID employees, could be rapidly deployed with the military for both initial assessments and operational purposes. They would be the first civilian team on the ground in post-conflict situations, well in advance of the establishment of an embassy.